

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Friday, March 27, 2020

2:00 P.M. Virtual Special Session

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, second floor, Durham County Government
Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chair Wendy Jacobs, Vice Chair James Hill, and Commissioners Heidi Carter,
Brenda Howerton, and Ellen Reckhow

Presider: Chair Wendy Jacobs

Chair Jacobs asked for a moment of silence for Representative MaryAnn Black.

Chair Jacobs thanked County Leadership and Staff for their around the clock work and support during the County Cyber Malware Attack and COVID-19 outbreak. She acknowledged the three items discussed during the meeting and asked citizens with questions to contact Monica Toomer, County Clerk at mtoomer@dconc.gov

Revisions of the County Emergency Ordinance

Curtis Massey, Senior County Attorney reviewed the Ordinance with the Board and entertained any questions.

Commissioner Carter stated her concern was the uncertainty of an emergency including anything health related. After reviewing the ordinance and realizing it did, she agreed with the revisions.

Commissioners Howerton and Reckhow agreed with the additional language and asked that the Chair share the declaration with the Board before signatures were obtained.

Chair Jacobs expressed her support of the changes made and with the consensus of the Board, she asked for a vote on this item.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the ordinance as drafted.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sales Tax Interlocal Agreement (ILA)

Wendell Davis, County Manager stated staff continued the negotiations to evaluate the interlocal agreement; adding the estimate showed a loss of \$1.2 million. He continued to say City Manager Tom Bonfield agreed to move forward using a per-capita method to determine the amount to be

distributed to each entity. Manager Davis stated staff would complete this work within a week and provide an update to the Board by April 9, 2020.

Commissioner Howerton asked what the impact would be for the County budget. Manager Davis responded the impact would be roughly \$1.2 million based on the loss experienced due to the newly revised ILA.

Commissioner Reckhow inquired about a proposed new split between the City and the County. Claudia Hager, General Manager responded after a discussion with the Department of Revenue, staff was looking at a reset of the split proposed. She added staff would know what the City was sharing in the upcoming week and would provide that information with the Board.

Manager Davis asked staff to share the split proposed. Keith Lane, Budget Director stated the proposal was a 54 ½ -- 45 ½ split between the County and the City. He added County staff realized the original proposed split by the City was worse than an ad valorem split; adding the ILA being proposed was a per-capital collection that would match an ad valorem split.

Commissioner Carter requested to see a table showing the breakout of what the City and County would receive. Ms. Hager stated a very comprehensive document that would point out the impact of changing to ad valorem with various scenarios and what was recommended moving forward would be provided to the Board.

Update on County Response to COVID-19

Rodney Jenkins, Public Health Director and Leslie O’Conner, Chief Emergency Manager shared a brief update on the daily operations of the EOC and entertained questions

Commissioner Reckhow inquired about the total number of cases in Durham County. Mr. Jenkins responded 102. Commissioner Reckhow appreciated the data received and asked that the updates be provided on a weekly basis; adding she was interested in cases related to travel versus community spread. Mr. Jenkins stated he would provide the information weekly as requested.

Commissioner Howerton and Vice Chair Hill thanked staff for the update and, also requested to see a weekly report.

Commissioner Carter stated with regards to the new Emergency Ordinance approved, was there a plan that could be sent out to the Board for review. Ms. O’Conner responded staff re-wrote the plan in 2017 which included departments and partners. She added the draft was not approved by the Board; however, once the systems were back up and running, it would be shared in a formal manner.

Commissioner Carter questioned contact tracing, asking if the County traced both symptomatic and asymptomatic persons. Mr. Jenkins responded the health department received guidance and as the numbers grew, staff would have more of an opportunity to trace and contact those individuals personally.

There was a discussion on the County Stay at Home Order and the measures taken to reduce the number of individuals who could meet in gatherings.

Updated on the Cyber Malware Attack

Greg Marrow, Chief Information Officer shared a brief update on the steps taken to restore the County since the malware attack on March 6, 2020.

There were no additional questions from the Board.

Chair Jacobs announced a press conference was scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers to share the newly revised Countywide Ordinance.

Adjournment

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Monica W. Toomer
Clerk to the Board